



News Release

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IDWR ISSUES NOTICE OF VIOLATION
FOR USING WATER WITHOUT WATER RIGHT

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State water managers have issued a notice of violation to a Star-area man for illegally using canal irrigation water to fill a pond without a valid water right to do so, the Idaho Department of Water Resources announced today.

The notice of violation also seeks \$3,200 in civil penalties from Dennis Loosli. He was also ordered to cease and desist any further diversion of water from the Farmers Union Ditch Company canal.

The action grew out of complaints filed with IDWR by area residents who claimed Loosli was filling the 2-3 acre pond on his property without a water right. Water right agents investigated the case and found that water from Farmers Union was being diverted through a head gate into the pond. IDWR then notified Loosli on several subsequent occasions that a water right was needed before he could divert canal water and store it in the pond.

Loosli does own shares in the Ditch Company that would authorize the use of 0.16 cubic feet per second of water for use specifically for irrigation. However, a water right is also required for storage of the water in a pond for recreational or aesthetic storage since the water is being used for a purpose other than irrigation.

Following additional complaints, an IDWR water right agent again visited the site on July 11 and established that the pond was being filled with water diverted through a head gate from the Farmers Union canal.

Loosli has until August 16 to request a conference with IDWR to discuss the violation.

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